

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of

Domenic Belcastro

Serial No.

10/710,643

Filed:

July 27, 2004

For:

ONE-PIECE SOFT SPOUT VALVE ASSEMBLY FOR A

NO-SPILL DRINKING CUP

Attorney Docket No:

BEL 0116 PUS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

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DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.56

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the art listed and identified on the attached Form PTO-1449A is being submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner.

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

It is Applicant's opinion that the claims presently on file patentably distinguish the present invention from each of these references. The above references are being cited only in the interests of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art or

contain matter which anticipates the invention or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0476

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 7/27/04

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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(Use as many sheets as necessary)

| Application Number | 10/710,643 | |
|------------------------|------------------|--|
| Filing Date | July 27, 2004 | |
| First Named Inventor | Domenic Belcstro | |
| Art Unit | | |
| Examiner Name | | |
| Attorney Docket Number | BEL 0116 PUS | |

| U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)} | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | |
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| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages | |
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| | | Country Code ³ "Number ⁴ "Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | MM-DD-YYYY | | Or Relevant Figures Appear | T° |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND** TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.